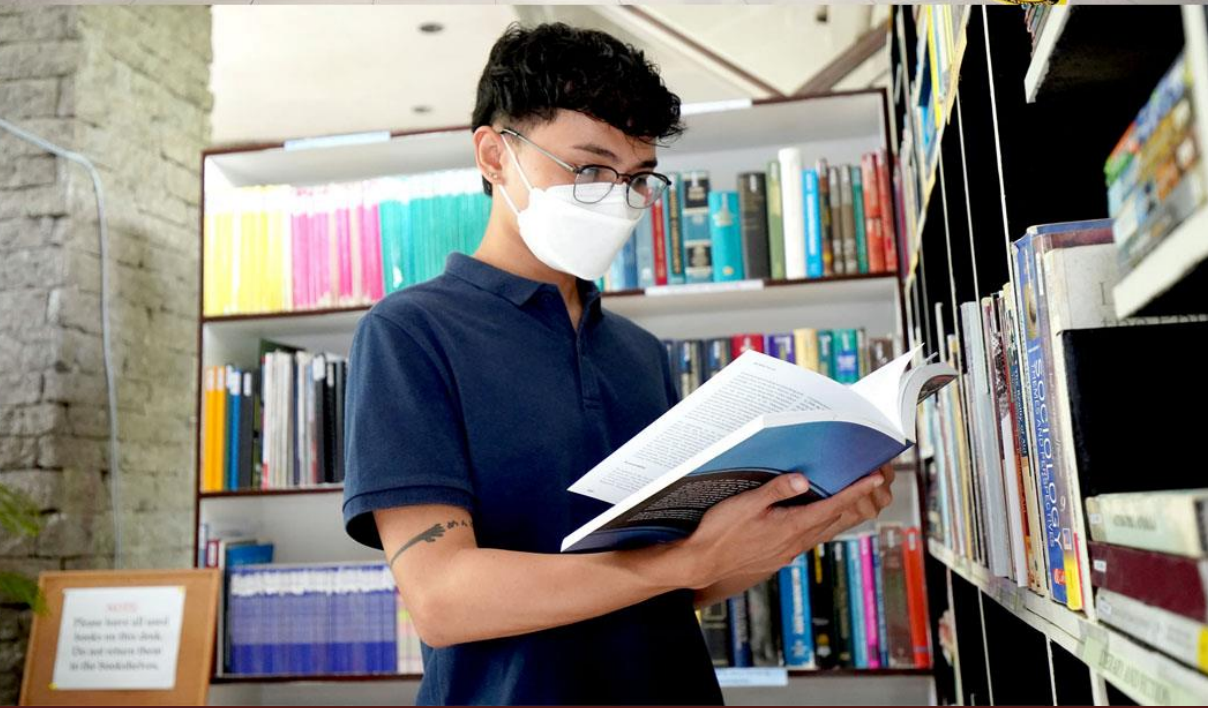




UP SYSTEM PUBLIC SERVICE REPORT



MARCH 2022



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In celebration of Women's Month, the University of the Philippines recognizes the importance of eliminating discrimination and inequalities based on sex, and thus conducted a series of public service initiatives that focus on the pivotal role of women in building and rebuilding nations.

Highlighting the Role of Women in Nation-building

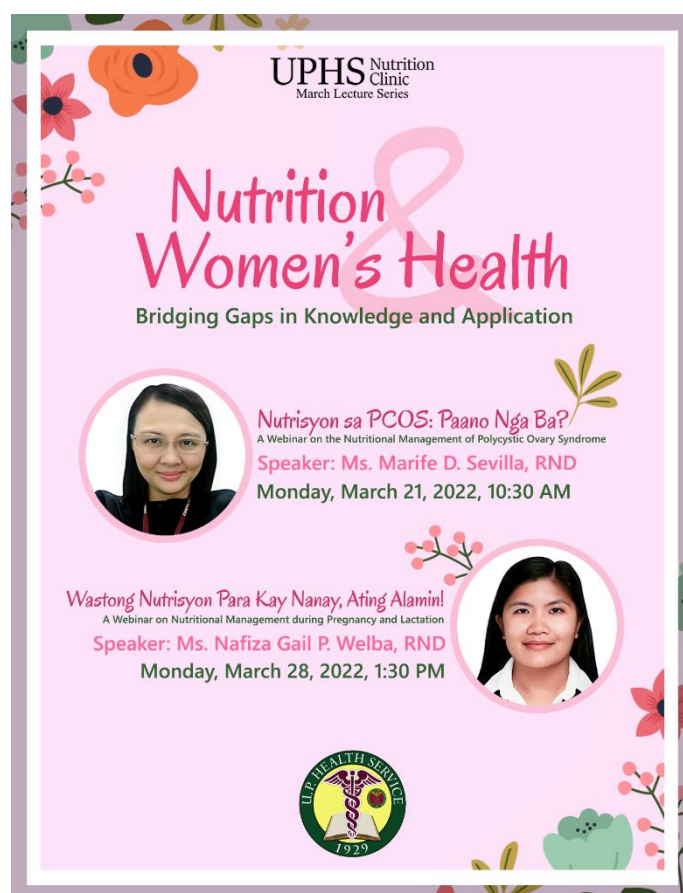
A. Women's Participation in the Different Sectors of Society

The UP Manila Center for Gender and Women Studies joined the campaign to #BreakTheBias for its 2022 National Women's Month Celebration, forwarding the theme "We Make Change Work for Women." The special event "*Kapihan ng mga Peminista*", was livestreamed on the UP Center for Women's and Gender Studies (CWGS) Facebook page. Moreover, the Message of Solidarity was given by Ms. Aika Robredo. The College of Arts and Sciences-Office of the Gender Program, in cooperation with the UP Manila Center for Gender and Women Studies, Bahagsari UP Manila, and Organization of Area Studies Majors, presented a webinar/book launch entitled "*Mga Babaeng Palaban: Ang Kasaysayan ng Kilusang Pangkababaihan sa mga Piling Bansa sa Timog Silangang Asya*".

The UP CWGS invited four heads of student governments and three mayors to present their views on the problems faced by Filipinas today and which women's issues should be urgently addressed by our political leaders. In the webinar, the speakers discussed challenges specific to women aspiring for political office and shared their personal experiences of breaking the stereotypes against women in political leadership.



UP Diliman presented an online forum about the latest legislative measures affecting women's rights, entitled "Making Change Work for Women: Taking Stock of Contemporary Legislations for Women". The following webinars were also conducted: "The Strengths of a Woman: Living a Life of Significance", "*Babae, Botante, at Bayan: Ang Boses ng Kababaihan sa Halalan*", "*Psst... Hatid na kita!: A Webinar on the Role of the Barangay in Protecting Women and Girls from Gender-Based Violence and Sexual Harassment*", "Nutrition and Women's Health: Bridging Gaps in Knowledge and Application", and "*Kalusugan ng Kababaihan: Pagbasag sa mga Maling Kaalaman sa Reproductibong Kalusugan at Edukasyong Sekswalidad*".



The UP Open University (UPOU) featured the webinar "Women in Emerging Realities and Crucial Times" which highlighted the contributions of women towards claiming and asserting their rights to participate in society, specifically in education, economy, and politics. Their OPEN Talk entitled "*Bukas na Talakayan ukol sa Agenda ng Kababaihan*" featured a discussion on women's empowerment and gender equality issues, and the importance of women in leadership, governance, and public service, towards achieving a gender-fair society. They also launched "*Agenda ng Kababaihan Tungo sa Kaunlaran*", a social media campaign that expresses UPOU's support to women.

UP Baguio (UPB) held an online women candidates' fora entitled "*Pantatavalan 2022: Women's Agenda and Governance Issues (WAGI)*".

The UP CWGS also organized a roundtable discussion about women in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic, entitled "Looking Back and Moving Forward: What Have We Done, What We Can Do".



In UP Los Baños (UPLB), the Office of Student Activities launched the "*Panayam Series Episode 1: Usapang Babae*", a conversation on women and women's issues in the campus and society. The UPLB Elderly Development Program held its monthly event with the theme *#BreakTheBias: Agenda ng Kababaihan, Tungo sa Kaunlaran*. A webinar entitled "*Melchora sa Panahon ng Pandemya: Mga Kwento ng mga Kababaihang Frontliners*" featuring female frontline health workers, was also presented. The webinar entitled "*Negosyo ni Juana, Tagumpay sa Agrikultura at Pamalakaya*" featured women-led social enterprises that promote positive socio-economic change and environmental conservation. UPLB also streamed "*Yapak ni Maria, Yapak ng Pagboboluntirismo*", a webinar on notable women engaged in volunteerism.



B. Raising Awareness through Gender and Development Programs

UPLB now offers an Impact Assessment Short Course. This short course provides an overview of Impact Assessment, its elements and application, and how gender can be mainstreamed in different extension and public service activities. Limited slots were available for the first batch of training.

UP Diliman held the “#StartEmYoung: A Gender Sensitivity Orientation and Anti-Sexual Harassment Orientation”, with the theme “*Defend UP: Manindigan para sa Paghilom, Pagbangon, Pagsulong, at Pagkakapantay-pantay*” for freshman students.

Through Kasarian Gender Studies Program and Office of Anti-Sexual Harassment, UP Baguio conducted their Gender Sensitivity and Anti-Sexual Harassment Orientation for UPB faculty, staff, and student. This event was also part of the 18-Day Campaign to End Violence Against Women.

In UP Visayas (UPV), the Safe Sex Forum was streamed as part of the celebration of UPV Pride 2022.

Strengthening New COVID Variant Detection and Provision of COVID-related Information, Education, and Communication

In cooperation with the Department of Health - Epidemiology Bureau (DOH-EB), UP, the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), the Department of Health (DOH), and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), have combined efforts to begin genome sequencing services of nasopharyngeal or oropharyngeal swab samples from DOH-licensed COVID-19 testing laboratories, to detect SARS-CoV-2 variants circulating in Visayas and Mindanao.

A new COVID-19 testing kit is expected to be developed by May, according to the DOST.

The DOST-Philippine Council for Health Research and Development-funded project “Development of a Cell-Based Immunoassay for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (Covid-19) Serologic Testing” is headed by Dr. Fresthel Monica Climacosa of UP Manila, together with collaborators from the University of Toronto, Canada.

The UP System still regularly conducts the “Stop COVID Deaths” webinar series every 12 noon on Fridays.

A weekly update on the number and status of active cases in the UP Diliman community is regularly posted in the UP Diliman Facebook Page.

In UP Manila (UPM), the latest issue of Acta Medica Philippina, a peer-reviewed general medical and health science journal, was released. This latest feature focused on Occupational Safety and Health amidst the pandemic. UPM also organized a Virtual Conference for the 24th National Institutes of Health Anniversary entitled “Transcending Inequity: Discoveries, Inventions and Innovations in Challenging Times”. The British Embassy of Manila-UP College of Public Health webinar series is also continuously conducted, this time focusing on “Mitigating Climate Change Impacts in the Now Normal: Parasitic and Vector-Borne Diseases” and “Ensuring Action on Vaccine-Preventable Diseases in the Now Normal”. The UP College of Medicine Class of 1997 held its “*9aling at 7alino*” UP MED Webinars series, the “Lenten Webinar 2022: Spiritual Wellbeing in the time of a Pandemic”, “Diabetes in the Time of Pandemic: How to Minimize Risk”, and “Managing Post COVID-19 Pulmonary Complications”. Furthermore, UPM held a Call for Survey Respondents on the research study “Return to Work Situation of Filipino COVID-19 Survivors and the Role of Rehabilitation: A Mixed-Method Design”.

Providing Psychosocial Support

In UP Diliman, the Institute for Small-Scale Industries' Communities of Practice for Entrepreneurship (COPE) Program presented the online discussion entitled “She Rises, She Rebuilds: Stories of Hope and Resilience of Women Entrepreneurs in the Time of Pandemic”.



In UP Baguio, the “TALINAAY: Stress Management Seminar for Teachers” was held.

In UP Los Baños, the Department of Humanities Helpline: Telepsychosocial Support is still active and available for Philo or ComArts students of the same department.

Addressing Learning Needs of Students under the New Normal

A. Aiding in the Remote Learning Needs of Students

The UP System reported that thousands of UP students have been granted remote learning assistance in the course of the pandemic, reiterating that many more will benefit from the expansion or continuation of their programs this year.

The UP Mindanao Interactive Learning Center/Learning Resource Center targeted undergraduate students to learn about Learning Management Systems (LMS) through the Canvas LMS Orientation.

UP Diliman held “Teach Talk: How to Teach and Manage Your Gen Z Class (Purposive Communication Edition)”. This webinar was intended to create spaces for teachers to freely share and exchange teaching methods, classroom management strategies, and learning resources within the context of remote and blended/flexible learning.

B. Preparing for Limited Face-to-Face Classes and Providing Learning Spaces for Students

According to CHED and DOH, students must have medical insurance as a necessary safety measure, when they participate in face-to-face classes. UP students without medical insurance are instructed to register under PhilHealth.

The UP System reported that Pook Aralan in Bato Leyte is now open to aid UP students seriously affected by Typhoon Odette.

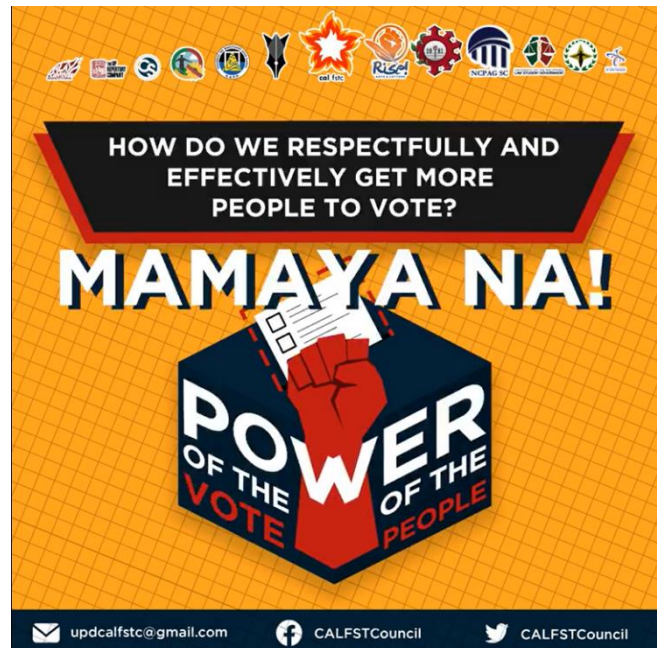
In UP Visayas, two new learning spaces called Acaden and Estudio are now open for students during the limited conduct of face-to-face classes.

In UP Los Baños, the “**ASSIST: Aid and Scholarship Services Informational Support to Students**” informs UPLB students about student financial and learning support available from the UPLB Office of Scholarships and Grants (OSG). The OSG webinar discussed the four major units giving assistance, namely: (1) Grants-in-Aid Program, (2) Student Loans and Claims, (3) Private and Government Scholarships, and (4) Student Assistantship Program. Furthermore, the Learning Resource Center (LRC) opened on March 11; its Learning Hub is located at the Student Union Building. According to the LRC, the Learning Hub provides easy access to Internet and computer services to students who are now taking part in the limited face-to-face class activities in the campus.



Promoting Voter's Education for an Informed and Responsible Citizenry

In UP Diliman (UPD), a series of panel discussions on political persuasion geared towards the 2022 presidential elections was organized, entitled “Persuasion and the Polls: The Rhetorical Work of Objects and Bodies in the Philippine Elections”. UPD also held “*Katuwang sa Halalan: A Live Training Program for Military Officers for the Upcoming 2022 Elections*” which featured discussions on constitutional and electoral laws as well as the Omnibus Election Code. Lastly, UPD streamed a voter's educational discussion entitled “The Power of the Vote, Power of the People”.



In UPOU's episode of OPEN Talk, the program “From Marites to Maricon: Kontra-Disimpormasyon sa Eleksyon” was featured.

UP Manila organized the online forum “Health Is Political: Health as a Central Agenda in the 2022 Elections (March 9, 2022)”. In addition, the Department of Social Sciences held its “Voter's Education Forum Series: Disinformation, Distortion and Denialism in the 2022 Philippine Elections”.